

Exhibit 18

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
3
4 U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE :
5 COMMISSION, :
6 Plaintiff, :
7 vs. : No.11 Civ. 9645 (RJS)
8 :
9 ELEK STRAUB, :
10 ANDRÁS BALOGH, and :
11 TAMÁS MORVAI, :
12 :
13 Defendants. :
14 _____ :
15

16 Videotaped Deposition of VLADO BUCKOVSKI
17 Washington, D.C.
18 Friday, February 7, 2014
19 1:25 p.m.
20 Job No. 48302
21 Pages 1 - 151
22 Reported by: Leslie Anne Todd

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p> <p>1 the first --</p> <p>2 Q Okay. So his are on the bottom right?</p> <p>3 A Yeah.</p> <p>4 Q And there are two sets of initials below</p> <p>5 that, it looks like.</p> <p>6 You don't recognize either of those?</p> <p>7 A No. No, sir.</p> <p>8 Q What about on the left page -- side of</p> <p>9 the page?</p> <p>10 A Some initials, but I don't recognize. I</p> <p>11 know only the M. It's Dejan Mickovik.</p> <p>12 Q All right. And where did you sign this</p> <p>13 document?</p> <p>14 A When?</p> <p>15 Q Where.</p> <p>16 A Where. I think in -- I remember. In --</p> <p>17 in our -- we have one special part of ministry of</p> <p>18 defense.</p> <p>19 (Through the interpreter): It is the</p> <p>20 hall in the home of the army. It's a building in --</p> <p>21 he was in some sort of a show when he heard that two</p> <p>22 negotiating parties came to an agreement.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p> <p>1 A (Through the interpreter): That's right.</p> <p>2 Okay. This protocol was on paper who was supposed to</p> <p>3 regulate their relationship. But you can notice that</p> <p>4 it never became an official government document,</p> <p>5 because there is no an archive number. And it's not</p> <p>6 filed in the archives of the government.</p> <p>7 Q Was that your intention?</p> <p>8 A (Through the interpreter): That wasn't</p> <p>9 his intention because this contract is not obliging</p> <p>10 for anyone -- binding. I'm sorry. Binding.</p> <p>11 Q I'm sorry. Maybe you misunderstood my</p> <p>12 question.</p> <p>13 A Yeah.</p> <p>14 Q Was it your intention that the protocol</p> <p>15 not be placed in the government archives?</p> <p>16 A (Through the interpreter): That wasn't</p> <p>17 his intention.</p> <p>18 Q What was your intention -- what was your</p> <p>19 intention?</p> <p>20 A (Through the interpreter): They were</p> <p>21 talking about that contract in public -- the</p> <p>22 protocol. I'm sorry.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p> <p>1 Q And so did someone bring you the document</p> <p>2 for you to sign?</p> <p>3 A (Through the interpreter): He can't</p> <p>4 remember who came from their negotiating team. They</p> <p>5 said that they have a contract, and it should be</p> <p>6 follow up on the next page.</p> <p>7 Q Were you aware that there were no copies</p> <p>8 made of the signed Protocol of Cooperation?</p> <p>9 A I don't know, really.</p> <p>10 Q Were you aware that there was only one</p> <p>11 original copy of the Protocol of Cooperation?</p> <p>12 A Maybe, yes.</p> <p>13 Q Do you know where that was kept?</p> <p>14 A I don't know.</p> <p>15 Q Were you -- did you know that it was</p> <p>16 taken to Athens and put into the office safe of</p> <p>17 Mr. Contominas?</p> <p>18 A (Through the interpreter): He hears</p> <p>19 about that for the first time now.</p> <p>20 Q Were you aware that the Protocol of</p> <p>21 Cooperation was not placed in any official files of</p> <p>22 the Macedonian government of any official archives?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p> <p>1 (Through the witness): They would solve</p> <p>2 the problem with dividend. Because the main focus of</p> <p>3 our public opinion was dividend. And we say yeah, we</p> <p>4 find the solution for dividend, and we'll open the</p> <p>5 possibility to solve the other issue for employees,</p> <p>6 for potential third operator, et cetera, et cetera.</p> <p>7 Q So was it your instruction as the prime</p> <p>8 minister that because the Protocol of Cooperation was</p> <p>9 not binding on the government that it should not be</p> <p>10 placed in the archives?</p> <p>11 A (Through the interpreter): That wasn't</p> <p>12 his decision. Up until that point, there was no</p> <p>13 similar contract to this one.</p> <p>14 Q Whose decision was that?</p> <p>15 A (Through the interpreter): Is it going</p> <p>16 to be archived or not?</p> <p>17 Q Yes.</p> <p>18 A (Through the interpreter): Experts that</p> <p>19 took part in the negotiations. So we don't have</p> <p>20 obligations as a government if eventually the</p> <p>21 contract doesn't get fulfilled. Because it was clear</p> <p>22 that not everything can be realized or --</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p> <p>1 Q So was it your understanding that the</p> <p>2 Protocol of Cooperation was not binding on the</p> <p>3 Macedonian government?</p> <p>4 A (Through the interpreter): Can you</p> <p>5 please repeat that?</p> <p>6 Q Was -- do you understand binding --</p> <p>7 A Yeah.</p> <p>8 Q -- a binding agreement?</p> <p>9 A Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.</p> <p>10 Q Was this a binding agreement for the</p> <p>11 Macedonian government? Was the Macedonian government</p> <p>12 bound by the Protocol of Cooperation?</p> <p>13 A (Through the interpreter): This</p> <p>14 contract did -- protocol did not bind them with</p> <p>15 anything. But in the spirit of building a mutual</p> <p>16 trust, we tried and succeeded right away to solve the</p> <p>17 paragraph 2, and to start with the payments -- the</p> <p>18 dividend payments. In the rush of all the signing of</p> <p>19 this memorandum of understanding, because of 30th of</p> <p>20 May of 2005, finally Macedonia got its dividend, and</p> <p>21 they sold the telecom in 2001.</p> <p>22 Q Okay. So is it your understanding then</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p> <p>1 he didn't wanted to have any contact with him. He</p> <p>2 saw Elek Straub for the first time in February of</p> <p>3 2005, and after that at his official visit to</p> <p>4 Budapest, he was part of their business delegation.</p> <p>5 And then he asked him in Budapest, he asked him why</p> <p>6 he doesn't have a contact with his people in Skopje,</p> <p>7 and he told him the reason.</p> <p>8 Q Did you ever negotiate aspects of the</p> <p>9 Protocol of Cooperation with Elek Straub?</p> <p>10 A (Through the interpreter): Never.</p> <p>11 Q Did you ever meet with Elek Straub to</p> <p>12 discuss any aspect of the Protocol of Cooperation?</p> <p>13 A (Through the interpreter): No. No.</p> <p>14 Q What about any of the terms that are in</p> <p>15 the protocol, such as the dividend or the frequency</p> <p>16 fee?</p> <p>17 A (Through the interpreter): That was</p> <p>18 negotiated with the two teams, and through their</p> <p>19 teams they were setting up objectives. The team of</p> <p>20 the Magyar Telekom was doing consultations. When</p> <p>21 they would reach an agreement, they would move on.</p> <p>22 Q Okay. But I guess my question --</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p> <p>1 or is this right that the Protocol of Cooperation was</p> <p>2 not a binding agreement from the Macedonian</p> <p>3 government, right?</p> <p>4 A Definitely we have a better position in</p> <p>5 relation between government and Magyar Telekom, but</p> <p>6 without --</p> <p>7 (Through the interpreter): -- without the</p> <p>8 tools to force them to do one thing or the government</p> <p>9 doing another thing.</p> <p>10 Q Okay. But were you -- but you expected</p> <p>11 Magyar Telekom to rely on this protocol and issue the</p> <p>12 dividend, right?</p> <p>13 A (Through the interpreter): Magyar</p> <p>14 Telekom did that right away, on the 3rd day of May,</p> <p>15 and the communication changed or started totally a</p> <p>16 different communication. The only director that he</p> <p>17 didn't accept in his office was András Szendrei. He</p> <p>18 had an aversion, disliked him, and he knew that. He</p> <p>19 was suspecting that he was helping the opposition in</p> <p>20 2005. He saw him dining with a leader of the</p> <p>21 opposition, and that's when he swore that he's not</p> <p>22 going to enter his office. And Elek Straub knew why</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p> <p>1 A (Through the interpreter): That's when</p> <p>2 they were looking for the official numbers for the</p> <p>3 dividend. They were a contract. They knew what the</p> <p>4 gain is. And they were insisting to get their part</p> <p>5 of the gain. There was no problem there. The</p> <p>6 problem was with the problem of payment of the</p> <p>7 concessions. And the problem that the government</p> <p>8 made, why weren't we informed for the payments for</p> <p>9 consulting -- consulting services below one million</p> <p>10 dollars.</p> <p>11 Q Okay. Professor Buckovski, when you were</p> <p>12 prime minister, did you ever have any face-to-face</p> <p>13 meetings with Elek Straub to discuss the dividend?</p> <p>14 A (Through the interpreter): No, there was</p> <p>15 no such meetings. There was no room for negotiation</p> <p>16 about the dividend. The issue was, Are they going to</p> <p>17 pay or not? That's where they used the force of the</p> <p>18 state. Because they knew the numbers. But those</p> <p>19 numbers were hidden from them. He was talking about</p> <p>20 it earlier. That was the only issue that the</p> <p>21 inspection found when they got into Stonebridge</p> <p>22 communication.</p>

13 (Pages 46 to 49)

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 142</p> <p>1 little bit of redirect.</p> <p>2 MR. SULLIVAN: Okay.</p> <p>3 FURTHER EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR</p> <p>4 PLAINTIFF</p> <p>5 BY MR. DODGE:</p> <p>6 Q Professor, turning on to page --</p> <p>7 Exhibit 81 --</p> <p>8 A 81, yeah.</p> <p>9 Q -- am I correct in understanding that the</p> <p>10 Protocol of Cooperation that you signed had been</p> <p>11 negotiated by government officials who reported to</p> <p>12 you; is that right?</p> <p>13 A Yeah. Yeah.</p> <p>14 Q So during the time that they were</p> <p>15 negotiating the protocol between February of 2005 and</p> <p>16 May of 2005 --</p> <p>17 A Yeah.</p> <p>18 Q -- did they report to you on the progress</p> <p>19 they were making?</p> <p>20 A Approximately one weekly information,</p> <p>21 quick information.</p> <p>22 Q And did they ever say anything to you</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 144</p> <p>1 different consequences from what was discussed</p> <p>2 earlier. That's more like a wish list.</p> <p>3 Q So the Protocol of Cooperation that you</p> <p>4 signed, Exhibit 80, that one was never released to</p> <p>5 the Macedonian public; is that right?</p> <p>6 A (Through the interpreter): It was?</p> <p>7 Q Was -- let me reframe my question.</p> <p>8 A Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.</p> <p>9 Q The Protocol of Cooperation that you</p> <p>10 signed, was it ever released to the Macedonian public</p> <p>11 by the government?</p> <p>12 A (Through the interpreter): Is it -- the</p> <p>13 content of it?</p> <p>14 Q No, the document itself.</p> <p>15 A (Through the interpreter): On the</p> <p>16 government session -- on the government session, the</p> <p>17 content of -- was --</p> <p>18 THE INTERPRETER: He didn't finish</p> <p>19 the thought.</p> <p>20 THE WITNESS: (Through the interpreter):</p> <p>21 There was no need. It's unusual something that we</p> <p>22 discussed within our family to be publicized.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 143</p> <p>1 during that time about a separate Protocol of</p> <p>2 Cooperation that would be signed by another</p> <p>3 minister?</p> <p>4 A No. No. No. No.</p> <p>5 Q If they had been working on a separate</p> <p>6 Protocol of Cooperation, would you have expected them</p> <p>7 to have told you about it?</p> <p>8 A (Through the interpreter): It would have</p> <p>9 been problematic to negotiate parallelly. But</p> <p>10 looking at the documents, beside the signatures, I</p> <p>11 didn't see anything different. I cannot find logic</p> <p>12 why it this done like this.</p> <p>13 Q Okay. So --</p> <p>14 A (Through the interpreter): There are</p> <p>15 signatures of the people who are negotiating it.</p> <p>16 That looks -- that to me looks more like a copy of</p> <p>17 what was negotiated.</p> <p>18 Q Are you aware of any legitimate reason</p> <p>19 why Minister Mehazi would have signed a separate</p> <p>20 version of the Protocol of Cooperation?</p> <p>21 A (Through the interpreter): I do not have</p> <p>22 a logical explanation. Because it cannot have any</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 145</p> <p>1 Q Okay. So the result then was that the</p> <p>2 document was not released to the Macedonian public?</p> <p>3 A (Through the interpreter): It</p> <p>4 was retold; it was summarized.</p> <p>5 Q Was it usual within the workings of the</p> <p>6 Macedonian government when you were prime minister</p> <p>7 for a document like this that you had signed for</p> <p>8 nobody in the government to keep a copy?</p> <p>9 MR. SULLIVAN: Objection. That's been</p> <p>10 asked and answered.</p> <p>11 THE WITNESS: (Through the interpreter):</p> <p>12 We didn't have such a case before. We privatized</p> <p>13 everything. Here we stayed with owners. Even if we</p> <p>14 wanted to try to find a similar case, there is no</p> <p>15 one. That's why this is a specific case. That's why</p> <p>16 I said that we should move away from the partnership</p> <p>17 and share the -- on the stock market. And the entire</p> <p>18 government was involved into the implementation of</p> <p>19 the items agreed upon.</p> <p>20 For the concessions, I can bring 100</p> <p>21 pages written material of the deliberations of the</p> <p>22 government, what should go to the court, should we</p>

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<p>1 negotiate, what would be -- what there would be a</p> <p>2 benefit for Cosmote even though they are not part of</p> <p>3 the problem. For the dividend, everyone -- everybody</p> <p>4 were happy. They were all happy that Deutsche</p> <p>5 Telekom came in because that improved the image of</p> <p>6 the Republic of Macedonia. And Deutsche Telekom is</p> <p>7 Deutsche Telekom.</p> <p>8 (Through the witness): It is a brand</p> <p>9 name -- it is a brand name, and Macedonia was</p> <p>10 additional attractive for potential for investors.</p> <p>11 Like a small country to be a partner with Deutsche</p> <p>12 Telekom is a -- we say, To be a partner with Deutsche</p> <p>13 Telekom, we must pay to be a partner, not to corrupt</p> <p>14 us to Deutsche Telekom. It's out of logic. Deutsche</p> <p>15 Telekom to corrupt a small Macedonia and their</p> <p>16 developing business of how many billion Euros of</p> <p>17 dollars. It's out of mind. Deutsche Telekom is</p> <p>18 the -- it's a brand name. For us it's privilege</p> <p>19 Deutsche Telekom to be present in Macedonia. I'm</p> <p>20 ready to pay them not to -- to rebrand for 9 million</p> <p>21 Euros, what means one -- one -- \$9 or \$8 million for</p> <p>22 Deutsche Telekom? Nothing.</p>	<p>1 BY MR. SULLIVAN:</p> <p>2 Q Do you remember when you took an oath,</p> <p>3 Mr. Prime Minister?</p> <p>4 A Yes.</p> <p>5 Q You swore to tell the truth?</p> <p>6 A Yeah.</p> <p>7 Q And you upheld that oath today, didn't</p> <p>8 you.</p> <p>9 A Yeah, only the truth.</p> <p>10 Q Thank you.</p> <p>11 A And I would like to fight together with</p> <p>12 you for justice.</p> <p>13 And I told you that two days before</p> <p>14 Mr. Sullivan and the other -- and the other</p> <p>15 representative of the other clients visited me in the</p> <p>16 lobby of a hotel and tell me only three words: Tell</p> <p>17 the truth and only truth, and I informed you about</p> <p>18 that.</p> <p>19 MR. SULLIVAN: Thank you, Mr. Prime</p> <p>20 Minister.</p> <p>21 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Going off the record.</p> <p>22 The time is 17:11.</p>
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<p>1 But it's -- construction of criminal</p> <p>2 stories are nonsense.</p> <p>3 Q Mr. Sullivan, when he was asking you</p> <p>4 questions, asked a number of questions about</p> <p>5 allegations of bribery. Do you recall that?</p> <p>6 A Yeah.</p> <p>7 Q And bribery is illegal in Macedonia; is</p> <p>8 that right?</p> <p>9 A Yeah.</p> <p>10 Q And so if you testified here that bribes</p> <p>11 were paid to you by officials of Magyar Telekom, you</p> <p>12 could be subject to criminal prosecution in</p> <p>13 Macedonia; is that correct?</p> <p>14 A I know. I know. Yes, I know.</p> <p>15 Q And there would be a possible --</p> <p>16 A Yes.</p> <p>17 Q -- prison sentence for that?</p> <p>18 A Yes. Yes. Yes.</p> <p>19 MR. DODGE: I have no further questions.</p> <p>20 THE WITNESS: Okay.</p> <p>21 FURTHER EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR</p> <p>22 DEFENDANT ANDRÁS BALOGH</p>	<p>1 (Whereupon, at 5:11 p m. the</p> <p>2 deposition of VLADO BUCKOVSKI was</p> <p>3 concluded.)</p> <p>4</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p>

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